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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/335,201	06/17/99	HILL	D RP 9-99-082

MM92/0213

EXAMINER
VORTMAN, A

BERNARD D BOGDON
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2835	

DATE MAILED: 02/13/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/335,201	HILL ET AL.	
	Examiner Anatoly Vortman	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2000.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 6/17/99 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
- 16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 20) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The submission of the amendment filed on 12/26/00 is acknowledged. At this point, claims 1 and 6-10 are amended, claims 11-14 are added. Thus, claims 1-14 are pending in the instant application.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "Velcro strip" recited in claims 13 and 14 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US/5,752,857 to Knights.

Regarding claim 1, Knights disclosed, (Fig. 7), a PC accessory unit for use with a desktop personal computer assembly including a PC keyboard (10), the PC accessory unit comprising: a body structure (180) incorporating electronic circuitry (30) for operation with a PC; and a connecting assembly (84A, 92) coupled to the body structure for attaching body structure externally to the PC keyboard (10).

Regarding claim 6, Knights disclosed, (Fig. 7), a PC accessory unit for use with a PC keyboard (10), comprising: a body structure (180) incorporating electronic circuitry (30) for operation with a PC; a connecting assembly (84A, 92) coupled to the body structure (180); wherein the connecting assembly is coupled externally to the keyboard.

Regarding claim 7, Knights disclosed that the body structure is a Smartcard utility kit, (column 2, lines 1+).

Regarding claims 2 and 8, Knights disclosed a clip (two prongs positioned between members 84A).

Regarding claim 3, Knights disclosed that said clip has two prongs for insertion into openings in a PC keyboard, (Fig. 7).

Regarding claim 4, Knights disclosed that the PC accessory unit is a Smartcard utility kit, (column 2, lines 1+).

Regarding claim 5, Knights disclosed that the clip of the Smartcard utility kit is inserted into keyboard openings, (Fig. 7).

5. Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US/4,749,364 to Arney et al., (Arney).

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Regarding claims 9, Arney disclosed, (Fig. 1) a PC accessory unit comprising: a body structure (105) incorporating electronic circuitry for operation with a PC; a connecting assembly (107), including a clip (109) coupled to the body structure; and a keyboard (101) having a backside surface facing away from a user, the keyboard configured to receive the connecting assembly and clip at the backside of the keyboard to dress the PC accessory unit to the backside of the keyboard, the keyboard being a stand alone component.

Regarding claim 10, Arney disclosed, (Fig. 1) a PC accessory unit, comprising: a body structure (105) for holding a device (111) for use with a PC; a connecting assembly (107), including a clip (109) coupled to the body structure; and a keyboard (101) having a backside surface facing away from a user, the keyboard configured to receive the connecting assembly and clip at the backside of the keyboard to dress the PC accessory unit to the backside of the keyboard, the keyboard being a stand alone component.

Regarding claim 11, Arney disclosed that said keyboard (101) has a plurality of openings (103) for receiving the clip (109).

Regarding claim 12, Arney disclosed that at least one opening (103) of the plurality of openings is located at a backside of the keyboard (101), the backside being a surface facing away from the user, (Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knights.

Knights disclosed all of the claims limitations as apply to claims 1 and 6 respectively, but did not disclose that said connecting assembly includes a Velcro strip.

The Official Notice is taken that Velcro strips have been notoriously known to a person of ordinary skill in the computer art at the time the invention was made as a widely used means for joining separate components of the device together, therefore it would have been an obvious matter of the design choice to use said Velcro strips for the connecting assembly of Knights in order to simplify the connecting assembly.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Anatoly Vortman** whose telephone number is 703-308-7824. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Mr. Leo P. Picard** can be reached on 703-308-0538. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.



Leo P. Picard
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

Anatoly Vortman
Examiner
Art Unit 2835

A.V.
February 7, 2001